branch of the Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow for creating awareness among farmers of Giridih and Kodarma district, providing them training and educating them about the farming of herbs; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI. YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scientists of Botanical Survey of India are actively engaged in research on plants of Vananchal region of South Bihar.

(c) CIMAP, a constituent establishment of CSIR is playing pivotal role in overall development and gainful exploitation of medicinal and aromatic plants. The Institute has development agro and processing technologies for a number of aromatic and medicinal plants. Also CIMAP has developed a number of varieties of these plants. These efforts have resulted in increasing production of the medicinal and aromatic plants material not only for the internal consumption but also for export.

(d) and (e) At present there is no proposal of setting up a branch of CIMAP in Giridih and Kodarma. CIMAP will be in a position to organise training courses for the farmers, on request from local agencies.

[English]

Royalty on Government Reports

1909. *SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the PRIME* MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to impose ban on reprint and reproduction of Government reports and publications by private publishers;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government charge any royalty or fee for publishing the material contained in the reports of the various Commissions and Committees appointed by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to bring the same within the purview of Copyright Act; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Government reports and publications can be reproduced or reprinted only with the permission of the copyright owner

(c) and (d) The Department of Publication under this Ministry which publishes Government publications does not charge any royalty.

(e) and (f) Reproduction or publication of the report of any Committee, Commission, Council, Board or other like body appointed by the Government does not constitute an infringement of copyright. If such report has been laid on the Table of the Legislature unless the reproduction or publication of such report is prohibited by the Government

Vacant D.D.A. Flats

1910. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "DDA ke 10,000 flat chaar varshon se khali pare" appearing in the 'Dainik Jagaran' dated December 11, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of DDA flats lying vacant for want of water and electricity connections and the number out of such flats which have been offered for allotment to registrants of New Pattern Scheme, 1979 alongwith the reasons allotting such flats which are not fit for habitant;

(d) the time by which the electricity and water connections will be provided to the vacant flats; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to float a scheme of priority allotment of flats to the retired/retiring employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : The DDA has reported that 17,276 flats are lying vacant for want of availability of electricity. Out of these 10,639 flats have been allotted to the registrants of all the schemes including NPRS, 1979. These allotments were made in anticipation of availability of electricity as per target dates given by DESU.

The details of all these flats alongwith the tentative programme of electrification, as given by DESU, are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) No, Sir.